MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No, Sir; that has nothing to do with the question.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether France manufactures coir mats and mattings?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): They do.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the export duty imposed on coir yarn will affect adversely that manufacture?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The export duty on coir yarn will only enhance the price at which France can get yarn.

MR. K. KUNJUKISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether that will not affect the industry there of mats and mattings?

PRESIDENT: That is obvious.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Then may I know, in view of that fact, whether Government will consider the necessity of reducing or abolishing the export duty on coir yarn?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): That is a hypothetical question, Sir.

Duty of Coir mattings imported into Canada.

100. *MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the enhancement of duty on coir mattings imported into Canada and the consequent fall in exports of that commodity from Travancore to Canadian ports and, if so, what action they have taken to remedy the situation?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes. The Government of India were addressed with a view to the relaxation of the tariff restrictions on the importation of coir mattings into Canada, and they have replied to say that negotiations for a trade agreement between India and Canada are in progress and that the question of duties on coir mats and floor-coverings in Canada will be considered in that connection.

PRESIDENT: From France we go to Canada now. (*Laughter*).

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know the existing import duty on mats and mattings imported into Canada?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I have no information.

Duty on Coir mats imported into U. S. A.

101. *MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the enhancement of duty on coir mats imported into the U. S. A. and, if so, what action they have taken to bring about a reduction in the rate of import duty?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes. The Government of India were requested to move for reduction in the rate of duty on coir mats imported into the U. S. A. but they have written to say that, in view of the present American tariff policy, they consider that a representation to the Government of the U. S. A. for a reduction of the increased rate of duty on Indian coir mats and floor-coverings is not likely to prove effective.

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